



The Piedmont

Rotarian



ROTARY DISTRICT 7690 • NOVEMBER 2013 • DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

"Engage Rotary Change Lives"

Cookie Billings, 309 Winrow Dr., Jamestown, NC 27282



Cookie Billings

November is Our Foundation Month - First Class Presidents

Our district achieved great success under District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair (DRFC) Charles Allen's guidance in the Future Vision pilot program over the last three years. District 7690 was chosen to participate in the pilot program and our district demonstrated great results.

This Rotary year at the start of Mike Conrad's term as DRFC, our clubs applied for district grant funds that totaled close to \$100,000, and even more in Global Grant Funds!

Indeed, over the last three years we have learned how to write grants and spend funds on worthy causes and projects! Now, we ask clubs and members to focus on raising the funds for Our Rotary Foundation. Our Rotary Foundation is the source of these grant funds we use to change lives.

This year Our District's FIRST CLASS Club Presidents have been requested to strive for 100% Sustaining clubs and to seek to regain the 100% Paul Harris status all of our clubs earned in 2008. Our fifty-one Club Presidents all contributed personally to Our Rotary Foundation before their year as Club President began. Our Rotary International President Ron Burton declared that District 7690 was a First Class District and sent each President a red, First Class pin to wear. District 7690 was one of only 44 districts (out of over 500) in the world to earn this First Class distinction!

I firmly believe that the generosity from the clubs in our district comes from the fact that most of our members understand and recognize the value and worth provided by Our Rotary Foundation to people all over the globe. Rated with the highest four-star rating by the Charity Navigator, Our Rotary Foundation enables Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace. Giving to our Foundation is truly a way that we all can leave a legacy for future generations. As we all learn when we join the greatest service organization in the world, one of the main ways Rotarians stand out from other service organizations is through our International service and Our Foundation.

I assure you that the Rotary World knows about our district accomplishments. If you have any question about that, turn to page 36 in our Rotarian magazine and read about our IPDG Rick Snider and his team leader Assistant Governor Jenny Braswell! Rotary District 7690's successful Packaged Grant project is a featured article for Rotarians around the world to read and study!

It is our District 7690 members who earned the world's first 100% Paul Harris District recognition and our members who are the Rotarians who continue to be recognized as leaders in the Rotary World. But District recognitions originate from the Clubs. And Club achievements source from the Members.

(continued on page2)

Rotary Peace Fellow Alumnus TRF Banquet Speaker



Marios Antoniou

Al and Nancy Jubitz Named Rotary World Peace Fellow

Duke University / University of North Carolina, 2008-10

Sponsor Rotary club: Rotary Club of Nicosia Salamis, Cyprus (District 2450)

Country of Citizenship: Cyprus

Languages: Greek, English, French

Rotary Center degree: Master of Arts, Educational Leadership

Applied Field Experience: European Youth Centre, Budapest, University of Cyprus, Department of Education, Cyprus and Budapest, Hungary; peace building in formal and non-formal education systems

Current Position: PhD candidate at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, focusing on peace education

Summary: Marios approached his Rotary Peace Fellowship hoping to improve his understanding of conflict resolution and use his skills in the field of education. He interned at the European Youth Centre of the Council of Europe in Budapest and at the University of Cyprus in their Department of Education, where he worked on peace building programs in formal and non-formal education systems. Prior to beginning his fellowship, he was the president of and NGO called Youth Promoting Peace, was a group leader at Peace Camp, and was a program leader at Seeds of Peace International, all in his home country of Cypress. He hopes that by working with youth in Cyprus, he can help to bring about an end to conflicts between Turks and Greek Cypriots.



Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Troy were dressed to impress for the 7th Annual Ray Taylor Golf Tournament.

7th Annual Ray Taylor Golf Tournament

The district golf tournament was recently held on October 10th at Pinewood Country Club in Asheboro. It was a fun day for all the participants.

The winning golf scores are:

Gross Division: Stratford, 144; Crescent, 150; Midstate,

Net Division: Crescent, 52 (won tie breaker); Jamestown, 52; Randolph, 53

Another winner was Richard Shope of the Guilford Club.

He won the door-prize which is a round of golf for four at the Grove Park Inn, compliments of the upcoming Rotary District 7690 District Conference, May 2-4, 2014. One more reason to look forward to a fun conference!

Rotary District 7690 Office
114 Willoughby Park Dr., High Point, NC 27265
www.Rotary7690.org www.Rotary.org

Margaret Padgett, Editor
Rotary7690@northstate.net

Art: Martha Shelley 2013



(...continued from page 1...Governor's Article)

I urge all members to once again help their club to be a 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club. And as a new stretch I urge all members to be Sustaining. The 100% Sustaining Club status means that during the year, every member donates \$100 to the Rotary Annual Fund. Over 76% of the members in our district are already Sustaining members, and we are close to another Number One achievement in the world! Together, we will build the Foundation funds that enable us to carry out life-changing projects around the world and in our community.

Engage Rotary - Change Lives.

Rotary Club of Southern Pines

Left to right: DGN Larry Lassiter, AG Junior Ward, DG Cookie Billings, Shane English, President of Southern Pines, David McNeill, Mayor of Southern Pines



Mayor McNeill presented a Proclamation to President Shane English from the Town of Southern Pines honoring the 75th Anniversary of the Southern Pines Rotary Club.

"Now therefore, as Mayor of the town of Southern Pines, on behalf of its citizens do hereby recognize and extend congratulations to the Southern Pines Rotary Club, its leaders and members both past and present for 75 years of service to the Town of Southern Pines and beyond."

DID YOU SEE?

In the November issue of The Rotarian on pp. 38 - 43 is the article "Mission Made Possible." The article is about Mercy Ships and the team from Rotary District 7690 that traveled to Conakry, Guinea. The article contains quotes from PDG Rick Snider and Team Leader Jenny Braswell. On Page 42, Jenny is in a photo with a government health official from Guinea. Take time to read the article.

Organ Transplant Project Update

Our District Goal for the Organ Donation Project is 2,700 new people agreeing to be organ tissue donors.

Have you signed up to be a donor?

Have you encouraged your relatives and friends to be donors?

If you or a member of your family needed a life-saving organ, wouldn't you want one to be available?

Unless we have enough people willing to be donors, each year more Americans will die while on the waiting list. Last year over 6,000 of our friends, relatives and neighbors died while on the waiting list.

It's easy to sign up. Visit: www.DonateLifeNC.org

Click: Register Now Button

Click: Proceed to Registration

When asked, "where did you hear about us?" Choose special event, then choose "Rotary 7690." You will be added to the Rotary tally. **Thank You!** *Ken Burkel*

DISTRICT 7690 CHANGES LIVES BY RAISING OVER \$500,000 FOR OUR FOUNDATION

In a ten-week fundraising campaign for Our Rotary Foundation, District 7690 raised an incredible \$543,000. In keeping with RI President, Ron Burton's theme this year, when Rotarians are engaged, lives will truly be changed. As part of Zone 33 which includes 15 districts, generous Rotarians and spouses from our district made major gifts or committed to estate gifts of over \$3.9 million for Our Rotary Foundation. I am proud to announce our district was in the top 3 among the 15 districts in our Zone in the amount raised to date for this campaign.

The celebration to culminate this campaign was Saturday, October 19 in Charlotte at the Renaissance Charlotte Suites Hotel. RI President Ron Burton and his wife Jetta were in attendance for the first ever fundraising campaign in the Rotary world. Also, in attendance was RI Vice-President, Anne Matthews. Our District was well represented with 11 Rotarians and spouses who had made commitments during this campaign.

Six of our Rotarians committed to a \$10,000 Major Gift over the next three years and 15 became new Bequest Society Members or increased their level of giving. A huge THANKS to DGE Patrick Eakes who represented our district on the Zone committee for this initiative. PDGs Stuart Fountain and Henry Brown and to all the "Champions" in our district who secured gifts in their club or clubs within our district should also be praised for their efforts.

We as District 7690 Rotarians can still participate in this initiative by either committing to a \$10,000 Major Gift payable over three years or by joining the Bequest Society with an estate gift commitment of at least \$10,000.

The photograph is from the celebration in Charlotte on the 19th of October of the District 7690 attendees. *Those in the photograph are RI President Ron Burton and his wife, Jetta, RI Vice-President Anne Matthews, Tanya and David Feagins, Barbara and Tom Fulp, Mary Ann and Mike Conrad, DGE Patrick Eakes, DG Cookie Billings and Ray Pifer, Allen Rembert and Claudia Cannady.*



The Generational Fight to Eradicate Polio

Remembering our past and honoring those among us who have (and are) fighting the good fight is an important and beautiful aspect of our journey through this life. But remembrance is also a necessary part of that journey. To very loosely paraphrase a quote by George Santayana, "It is only in remembering our past that we can preserve (and protect) our future."

This is never truer than when applied to our fight to eradicate polio. The last case of paralytic poliomyelitis in the US was identified in 1979, and the Western Hemisphere has now been polio free for over 20 years. But polio still remains a major problem in the rest of the world, and until every child is protected from the polio virus, no child is protected. We are only one border crossing away from a new polio outbreak in the US.

Generations past insured that current generations in the US would be polio free; and it is now up to our generations who have never known the personal horror of polio to insure that the world will finally be free of this most horrible and life-altering disease.

Following is a unique perspective on living with polio from our very own Past District Governor Ray Taylor.

PDG Ray has been a stalwart champion of Rotary's PolioPlus program and our "End Polio Now" campaign.

A View from the 89th Floor by PDG Ray Taylor, Polio Survivor

"Now that I am halfway through my 90th year, I find myself in an enviable place. I have more time to reflect on my past life. Obviously, I can see so much further into the past than I can into the future. And now that I have the time to do so, I can look back upon the results of my encounter with the poliovirus and ponder its effect on my body, my mind, and my view of life.

My encounter with the polio virus occurred in early 1925 when I was nine months old. The initial diagnosis was "intestinal flu", but the misdiagnosis made no difference as there would have been nothing to do except let the virus run its course. Being nine months old I have no memory of the acute pain that goes along with polio. From the height of my 90th year, memories of the past seem to flow like a ribbon of colorful strands of viscose plastic with everything blending together instead of discrete sights and sounds. However, there is one way-station that does stand out very clearly. I have no recollection that I was ever treated as "being different" by family, school or community. The one exception was my treatment at the James Whitcomb Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis where I had a "tendon transplant" by Dr. Casely. The tendon transplant straightened my foot to an almost flat position and it continues to work after seventy-five years.

During my freshman year at the University of Missouri, I was called up for the WWII draft. Following my physical I stood in my underwear with the rest of the guys prepared to be sworn into the Army. Just as the Sergeant was instructing us to "raise our right hand", that very same Dr. Casely arrived and noticed my atrophied left thigh.

He swiftly conferred with the Sergeant and my file was stamped 4-F. At the time I was furious and ashamed. Without question, this episode was the most traumatic event of my life. I never thought of myself as "different," and I certainly expected to do my part in the war. To be rejected and labeled 4-F was both humiliating and disorienting to the point that I never could get organized or feel like a whole person until I fell in love with my wife to be.

It took several years for me to fully appreciate what the surgeons had done, and I eventually became grateful for the people at Riley Hospital who labored so hard to help me lead a "normal" life. My polio experience played almost no role in the years from WWII until the late 1990s, when things began to change. I owned and operated a small marketing services business. In my leisure time I played golf, traveled, and cultivated our gardens and large yard. More frequent falls and some weakness in my arms brought the use of a cane and a visit with the doctor; and in early 2000 I was diagnosed with post-polio syndrome.

By 2004, at the age of 80, I knew we had to find a place to live that would not be as demanding as our private home. We moved to our independent living facility in 2007 where my locomotion is now with a wheeled walker, arm crutches for away from home, and an electric scooter for longer distances.

I have been told many times by many people that I am the most optimistic person they have ever known. I believe my polio experience has equipped me to cope with life and its varied challenges. It helped me to understand what is truly valuable and to acquire the confidence to deal with the bad and appreciate the good. I am the founder of the Rotary Polio Survivors Fellowship. I am active in our retirement home as librarian and organizer/discussion leader for our book club, and leader of a post-polio support group. As I approach my 90th year, I can still read and write, talk and think, and have been happily married for almost 68 years. I am optimistic that I will continue to lead a full active life. My view from the 89th floor, most importantly, is that I am content."



The 2nd annual Interact/Rotaract Leadership Conference will be held November 9, 2013 from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm at Guilford Technical Community College. This is a wonderful event that allows students, advisors and Rotarians to collaborate on a variety of leadership topics. If you or one of your Interact or Rotaract clubs is interested in registering please go to <http://interact-rotaractleadershipconference.eventbrite.com/> or access registration through the district calendar.

Participants will not be charged a fee for the event because of the generosity of sponsoring Rotary clubs within the district. If you have agreed to be an event sponsor, THANK YOU for your support! If your club is interested in becoming a sponsor please contact Jennifer Johnson 336-389-5336 or jjohnson@lkr CPA.com.

Please help us make this a wonderful event for Interact and Rotaract students!

Scholarships are Still Available!!

Is there a worthy scholarship candidate in your area? Do you know students or professionals who demonstrate a personal commitment to community service and exhibit good leadership skills? Act **NOW** to take advantage of these great opportunities.

Global Grant Scholarship

Minimum of \$30,000, with a 50% match from The Rotary Foundation.
Your District has allotted \$30,000 for 2 scholarships
Graduate level study within 1 of 6 Areas of Focus
Study term of 1-4 years at an overseas institution
Native language proficiency

Peace Fellow Scholarship

Masters degree at one of 6 Peace Fellow Centers around the world, or Professional Development Certificate in Bangkok.
3-5 years of full time relevant work overseas
Demonstrated commitment to World Peace and Understanding
Application deadline is July 1, 2014

District Cultural Scholarship

Up to \$10,000, to fund 3 months of language study overseas
Minimum of 2 years of college
Some native language proficiency
Enrollment in a recognized language course

Questions?? Assistance?? Contact your Foundation Advocate or Jim Kennedy at jkennedcma@bellsouth.net

It's About Membership!

Clubs are asked to "Attract and Engage" and no better way available to Rotarians is with two easy to complete member surveys available in our Rotary resources. As you coach your team to attract new members the "25 Minute Survey" is a front and back, one page 30 item questionnaire that probes who you know. Although this is personal information, just encourage your members to take a focused moment during a meeting to list their professional contacts. This short exercise will help crystalize the fact that they do know people who have high ethical standards, who are people that they like, trust and respect and are people that are in different occupations from themselves. In the end their network of contacts is diverse and full of possibility. The form may remain with them as a guide to making contacts. A good follow-up is to ask members to circle three names of potential new members and then to star one of the three to invite to their next meeting. Having a specific goal gets results!

A second membership tool is an evaluation survey, the "Membership Satisfaction Questionnaire." This 2 page, front and back survey of 16 questions lets you grade your club's activities and projects. Answers are turned in and remain confidential but this assessment is key to quality improvement and your club's ability to continue to keep your membership engaged and retained. Feedback and open communication is always a pathway to success. Take time in your club meetings to challenge your membership to complete both of these forms. Here are links to growing your membership...good luck!

And here's another great way to keep your members engaged with this update from the Gate City morning club in Greensboro...

"Gate City Rotary achieves 100% attendance for the month of September"

Making up at Gate City Rotary has never been easier. All weekly breakfast meetings are videoed and immediately posted on the club website using YouTube.com. All it takes is an inexpensive digital video camera, tripod, & willing club member/Public Image Chair to rotate/zoom the camera as the meeting progresses. After the meeting the memory chip is uploaded to a YouTube.com account archive & linked to the website. Absent members needing a make-up simply go to Gatecityrotary.com, follow the link to the Club Meeting Video Archive, watch the meeting from Invocation/Pledge, Announcements, Happy Dollars, speaker/program etc... & log their makeup within 2 weeks using the District 7690 attendance database. You can now attend a Gate City meeting from anywhere in the world!" No excuse this month to not gain from these terrific membership ideas! Below are the links to the membership tools:

<http://rotary7690.org/2013-14/25MinuteMembershipSurvey.pdf>

<http://rotary7690.org/2013-14/ClubMemberAssessmentSurvey.pdf>

Cindi Hewitt/Cory Newton, District 7690, Membership Co-Chairs

Public Image Committee Offers District Clubs Twitter Presentation

Enhancing clubs' use of social media is one of our district's projects this year and to help with that, Chris Estes (Greensboro Airport), a member of the Public Image committee, has produced a comprehensive presentation on "Tweeting All Rotarians."

In order to make this material available to all the clubs in the district, Chris would like to have a liaison within each club that he can coordinate with, provide relevant materials, and train remotely with the goal of the liaison giving the presentation to his or her club. The Social Media Chair of each club would be excellent for this task. With all the resources that the Public Image committee has put together, we feel that any social media chair could create an account for themselves and their club.

Chris is available to make an in-person presentation to any of the clubs in Greensboro. Join the "Twitterverse" and spread the good word about Rotary! Make sure to follow @Rotary7690. Chris can be contacted at:

@AirportRotary
@chrisjestes
chrisjestes@gmail.com

PROJECT REBUILD - Greensboro Rotarians Repair 4 Homes

Do you want a great example of a sustainable service project that embodies our theme for this year of "Engage Rotary - Change Lives"? For the 7th consecutive year, Project Rebuild engaged all 8 Greensboro clubs in this annual service project to assist low-income homeowners living in their community. During the first two weekends in October more than 75 Rotarians and Interact students made needed repairs to 4 families who could not physically or financially afford to do the work themselves. Repairs ranged from replacing unsafe flooring in bathrooms and kitchens, shingling a roof, and fixing siding that was deteriorating due to moisture. Ms. Wrenn who is an elderly widow in her 80's stated, "I have never had people do things like this for me. They have become my family and I am so thankful." This repair is just one example of how service projects can change lives as witnessed by the picture of Ms. Wrenn with Rotarians and Interact students.

Project Rebuild has been a collaborative project of all 8 Greensboro area Rotary clubs investing more than \$150,000 and 3,000 volunteer hours over the last 7 years to repair 28 homes for low-income homeowners. Each year 2 different clubs pair up with one another to work on a repair project. This provides an opportunity for club members to swing a hammer or a paint brush side by side with one another for a day getting to know a Rotarian from a different club. The last 2 years we have also invited Interact high school students to join in the projects. They have sanded and stained ramps for elderly and disabled homeowners who were recent recipients of an access ramp through the home repair program.

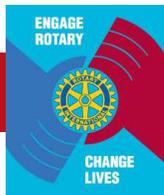
Here are this year's clubs and project leaders for Project Rebuild.

Crescent Rotary - Ras Fenger and Justin Smith
East Greensboro Rotary - Bob Powell
Gate City Rotary - Danny Farley
Greensboro Airport Rotary - Gene Brown
Greensboro Rotary - Fred Steck
Guilford Rotary - Chris Hodgin
Southern Guilford Rotary - Lonnie Cathey
Summit Rotary Club - Kevin Pegram

These repairs were made possible through generous donations from the Greensboro Rotary Clubs, Rotary Foundation - District Grants, the Clapp Charitable and Educational Trust Fund and the Frank Family Foundation.

Community Housing Solutions is a non-profit organization in Greensboro that qualifies the homeowners for their home repair program and coordinates all of the repair work for the volunteers. This maximizes the time the volunteers spend on the job site making these homes warmer, drier and safer along with making new friends with the families they serve. To learn more about Community Housing Solutions and to see more pictures of Project Rebuild, go to www.CHShousing.org.





Attendance for September 2013

*100% Paul Harris Fellow Club
**Triple Crown Club

CLUBS	MEMBERS AS OF 6/30/13	CURRENT MEMBERS	MONTHLY MEETINGS	MONTHLY % ATTEND NO.	CLUB ID
*Alamance	55	55	4	61	6090
*Alamance Bkft	14	14	4	94	23238
*Archdale/Trinity	14	14	4	86	29135
*Asheboro	74	77	4	59	6052
*Burlington	18	16	4	75	6092
*Carthage	19	19	4	74	6053
*Clemmons	102	97	4	75	29530
**Crescent	87	87	4	79	6056
*East Greensboro	16	14	4	55	55569
*Eden	38	35	4	70	6058
*Furnitureland	43	41	4	66	6059
**Gate City	63	67	4	100	27995
*Graham	32	36	4	54	6107
**Greensboro	289	291	3	69	6060
**Gboro Arpt	42	41	3	74	31667
*Guilford	51	50	4	73	22059
*High Point	125	125	4	76	6062
**Hillsdale Sunrise	18	18	4	76	99012511
*Jamestown	22	22	4	76	6063
**Jonesboro	37	36	4	60	22882
**Kernersville	76	73	4	81	25027
*King	17	17	4	81	51294
*Lexington	19	20	4	65	6065
*Liberty	21	21	3	51	6066
*Madison/Mayodan	30	29	4	82	6067
Midstate(Asheboro)	30	31	4	72	81879
**Mocksville	34	33	4	74	6069
*Mount Airy	89	89	4	81	6070
*Pinehurst	39	36	4	88	6072
*Randolph	68	68	4	69	6074
*Reidsville	60	57	4	58	6075
*Reynolda	94	92	4	54	21534
**San Lee Sunrise	15	15	4	77	30735
**Sandhills	40	37	4	65	25530
**Sanford	41	43	4	67	6078
*Siler City	31	33	4	56	6079
**Southern Guilford	11	11	3	81	61795
*Southern Pines	87	87	4	71	6080
*Stoneville	15	15	4	80	6081
*Stratford	93	95	4	44	6082
*Summit	92	94	4	71	6083
*Surry Sunrise	30	30	4	86	57326
**Thomasville	72	77	4	72	6084
*Triad	30	29	4	70	6071
*Troy	23	22	4	59	6085
*Walnut Cove	11	13	3	44	6087
*Western Forsyth	27	27	4	71	79812
**Willow Creek	11	10	4	75	60367
*Winston-Salem	244	247	4	39	6088
*Yadkin Valley	36	36	4	79	30000
*Yadkinville	25	25	3	74	51333

DISTRICT **2670** **2667** **3.88** **70%**

**DISTRICT 7690 INTERNET
RESOURCES:**

Visit www.Rotary7690.org
For the District Calendar visit
www.rotary7690.org/7690Calendar.SHTM

For District and Club Database visit
www.directory-online.com/rotary
Questions? Visit PhilMorris@Rotary7690.org